

MONTANA ADVISORY COUNCIL ON INDIAN EDUCATION

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

PREAMBLE

The Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education has been established in a previously successful government-to-government collaboration by the Board of Public Education and the Office of Public Instruction to act in an advisory role to them in matters affecting the education of American Indian students in Montana.

The Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education shall advocate for greater cooperation among tribal, state and federal organizations, institutions, groups and agencies for the express purpose of promoting high-quality education and equitable educational opportunities for Montana's American Indian students.

ARTICLE 1

Name of Organization

The name of the organization shall be the Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education.

ARTICLE II

Purpose

The purpose of the Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education shall be:

1. Advise the Board of Public Education and the Superintendent of Public Instruction in educational matters affecting the education of American Indian students, including accreditation, certification and teacher training;
2. Promote equal educational opportunity and improve the quality of education provided American Indian students throughout the State of Montana;
3. Advocate for, monitor and evaluate the implementation of Article X, section 1(2) of the Montana Constitution for all educational agencies; and
4. Establish goals and measurable objectives to carry out the responsibilities of the Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education and present an annual report to the Board of Public Education and Office of Public Instruction.

ARTICLE III

Goals

The Goals of the Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education are:

1. Communication

Facilitate communication about Indian education among all stakeholders in Montana.

The Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education will incorporate strategies of communication to disseminate information concerning their respective constituents' needs and issues. Members of the Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education will be responsible for bringing these matters to Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education's attention for discussion and action. MACIE members will also report back to their constituents on matters taken up at regular and special meetings.

2. Success in Schools

Identify and disseminate research-based measurable criteria, both behavioral and academic, that indicate successful education for Montana's Indian children.

3. Evaluation

Montana's pre-K-20 education system shall be continuously evaluated to determine its effectiveness in meeting the needs of Montana's American Indian students and appropriate recommendations made to the Office of Public Instruction and Board of Public Education based on this evaluation process.

4. Data Analysis

Collect and analyze data to monitor accountability of educational agencies to address the needs of Indian education.

5. Leadership

Promote the active participation of Indian people, tribes and tribal organizations in the education process.

Promote Indian educational leadership in decision-making at all levels, including Indian Education for All, Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council and other appropriate committees.

An annual review of these goals will be made by the Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education to determine progress.

6. Budget and Legislative Review and Monitoring

Submit budgetary recommendations, including recommendations for the biennial legislative budget request, to the Office of Public Instruction and the Board of Public Education for programs that affect the Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education's goals and purposes.

Members of the Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education are responsible to monitor and advocate legislation which potentially affects its constituency. Members are to keep their constituents apprised of issues and concerns.

BYLAWS OF MONTANA ADVISORY COUNCIL ON INDIAN EDUCATION

ARTICLE 1

Membership

The composition of the Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education shall consist of members who are representatives of Indian Education in the State of Montana. The membership shall be selected in consultation with Indian tribes, Indian organizations, major education organizations in which Indians participate and schools where American Indian students and adults attend.

Board of Public Education and the Superintendent of Public Instruction will jointly make appointments to the Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education.

NOTE: Participation on the Montana Advisory Council for Indian Education is voluntary and tribes and organizations invited to participate may decline.

Each of the eight Montana tribal councils shall be invited to select one representative to represent its tribe on this council. The Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education will seek participation by three urban Indian representatives from Great Falls, Billings and Missoula.

Other nominations will be sought from organizations or constituencies that have been identified as playing a key role in the education of American Indians in Montana. These are:

- Montana Education Association/Montana Federation of Teachers (MEA-MFT) Indian Representative
- School Administrators of Montana (SAM)
- Indian Impact Schools of Montana (IISM) Board Representative
- Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA) Indian School Board Caucus Representative
- Montana Indian Education Association (MIEA) Board
- Class 7 Teachers
- Urban school district Indian Education Departments

Voting

The total voting membership will be 17 and include:

- 8 – Tribal representatives from each Montana tribal council
- 3 – Urban Indian representatives from school district Indian Education Departments
- 1 – Montana Education Association/Montana Federation of Teachers (MEA-MFT) Indian Representative
- 1 – School Administrators of Montana (SAM)
- 1 – Indian Impact Schools of Montana (IISM) Board Representative
- 1 – Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA) Indian School Board Caucus Representative
- 1 – Montana Indian Education Association Board Member
- 1 – Class 7 Representative

Ex-officio members to the Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education shall be:

- Office of Public Instruction
- Board of Public Education
- Montana University System
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Tribal Head Start
- Tribal Colleges

ARTICLE 2

Officers

The officers of Advisory Council shall consist of a chairperson, vice-chairperson and secretary selected by the Council.

ARTICLE 3

Removal from the Council

Council members will automatically lose membership with two consecutive unexcused absences from regularly or specially called meetings without prior notice of absence as per Article 10, Section 3. A letter from the Superintendent of Public Instruction requesting the organization to name a new member will be sent to the sponsoring entity and absentee member.

ARTICLE 4

Amending the Constitution

An amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws may be adopted by a vote of no less than one-half (1/2) of the Council at a regular or special meeting. Advance notice of the agenda containing a proposal to amend shall be distributed to all Council members at least 15 days in advance of the meeting. All amendments shall be subject to review and approval by the Board of Public Education and the Office of Public Instruction.

ARTICLE 5

Rules of Order

Robert's Rules of Order Revised shall be used as a guideline on all procedural questions not otherwise specifically stated in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Council.

ARTICLE 6

Terms and Duties of Officers

- Section 1. Chairperson, vice-chairperson and secretary shall be elected from and by the Council at the summer meeting and shall serve for two years.
- Section 2. The chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the Council. The chairperson shall be an ex-officio member of all committees. The chairperson or designee will represent and present reports for the Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education at all Board of Public Education meetings and other meetings that are deemed important by the Council.
- Section 3. The vice-chairperson shall assume all duties of the chairperson in the chairperson's absence.
- Section 4. The secretary or designee shall edit all minutes of the Council meetings and shall provide proper notice of all meetings scheduled. Regular quarterly meetings shall receive 15 days notice. The secretary shall perform such other duties as prescribed by the Council.

ARTICLE 7

Terms of Members of Council

The membership of the Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education will consist of delegate members serving at the pleasure of their nominating tribe/organization until replaced by their sponsoring agency, or unless said member violates Article 3 of the Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education bylaws. Membership will be reaffirmed every five years.

Vacated positions will be reaffirmed or refilled by each entity/organization within a reasonable time period.

ARTICLE 8

Duties of Members

Members of the Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education will be responsible for carrying out the purposes and goals of the Constitution. Members shall bring information to the Council from their constituents for consideration. They will also report back to their constituents regarding Council meetings.

The Office of Public Instruction ex-officio member will be a staff person to the MACIE and will assist the Council in its efforts to achieve its goals.

ARTICLE 9

Committees and Appointments

Each member will be assigned to an appropriate working committee. Special and/or ad hoc committees may be established as necessary. Standing committees shall consist of Budget/Legislative, Communications/Public Relations and Evaluation/Data.

The Executive Committee shall consist of the three officers and two members appointed by the Chairperson. The Executive Committee shall:

1. Call special/emergency meetings as deemed necessary;
2. Have the authority to make emergency decisions on behalf of the Council;
3. Seek reaffirmation of decisions from the Council; and
4. Report back to the Council.

ARTICLE 10

Meetings

Regular Advisory Council meetings shall be called quarterly. Special meetings may be called at the discretion of the Council, the Board of Public Education or the Office of Public Instruction in whatever form available.

Section 1. A quorum for all Council meetings shall consist of six (6) voting members in attendance.

Section 2. A quorum for all Executive Committee meetings shall consist of three (3) members.

Section 3. Regular Council members will select an alternate representative to serve in their absence. Said alternates shall enjoy all the rights and privileges for the regular and special Council meetings. A response shall be returned prior to the meeting date to indicate whether the delegate, the alternate or no one will be representing the tribe/organization at the meeting.

Approved with Changes
February, 2013